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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMSIn the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A portable electronic device, comprising:
a slot adapted to receive a flash card, the slot being located in a compartment of the portable electronic device;
the compartment of the portable electronic device being sealed from the outside environment; [and]
an ejection mechanism coupled to the slot, and
a pen slot attached to the compartment, the pen slot enables a pen to be pushed out therefrom via a bottom opening associated therewith.
2. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 1, the flash card being a compact flash card.
3. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 1, the flash card being a smart media card.
4. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 1, the flash card being a PCMCIA card.
5. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 1, the compartment of the portable electronic device being a battery compartment.
6. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 5, the battery compartment further housing a SIM module.
7. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 1, the compartment comprising a sealing gasket operable to provide a seal between a housing of the portable electronic device and a cover of the battery compartment.

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8. (Original) The system of claim 7, the sealing gasket comprising an elastomer.

9. (Currently amended) A portable electronic device, comprising:
a compact flash card;
a slot adapted to receive the compact flash card and located within a battery compartment of the portable electronic device;
a sealing gasket operable to seal contents within the battery compartment from contaminants in the outside environment; [and]
an ejection mechanism coupled to the slot for ejecting the compact flash card, and
a pen slot that guides a sliding pen into a secure position within the portable electronic device.

10. (Currently Amended) A portable electronic device, comprising:
a housing having a compartment including a slot with an ejection mechanism attached thereto, adapted to receive a flash card;
a SIM contact device;
a SIM card coupled to the contact device, the SIM card being able to be freely detached from the SIM contact device;
a SIM card cover, the cover being employed to protect the SIM card and to maintain a close connection between the SIM contact device and the SIM card; [and]
a sealing gasket coupled to the SIM card cover, and
a pen compartment as part of the housing, the pen compartment with a slot that enables a pen to be pushed out therefrom or thereinto.

11. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 10, the SIM contact device being located in a well in a battery compartment of the portable electronic device.

12. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 11, the well having sidewalls adapted to properly align the SIM card within the well.

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13. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 12, the well and the SIM card having cropped corners to ensure proper alignment of the SIM card within the well.

14. (Currently amended) A portable electronic device, comprising: [The portable electronic device of claim 11, the SIM card cover being secured to the well by a screw]

a housing having a compartment including a slot with an ejection mechanism attached thereto, adapted to receive a flash card;

a SIM contact device located in well of a battery compartment for the portable electronic device;

a SIM card coupled to the contact device, the SIM card being able to be freely detached from the SIM contact device;

a SIM card cover, the cover being employed to protect the SIM card and to maintain a close connection between the SIM contact device and the SIM card, the SIM card cover being secured to the well by a screw; and

a sealing gasket coupled to the SIM card cover.

15. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 14, the sealing gasket provided between the SIM card cover and the well to ensure a seal between the SIM card cover and the well.

16. (Original) The portable electronic device of claim 11, the SIM card cover being freely detachable from the portable electronic device.

17. (Currently amended) A portable electronic device, comprising: [The portable electronic device of claim 11,]

a housing having a compartment including a slot with an ejection mechanism attached thereto, adapted to receive a flash card;

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a SIM contact device located in well of a battery compartment for the portable electronic device;

a SIM card coupled to the contact device, the SIM card being able to be freely detached from the SIM contact device;

a SIM card cover, the cover being employed to protect the SIM card and to maintain a close connection between the SIM contact device and the SIM card, the SIM card cover having at least one protrusions on a side facing the SIM card, the at least one protrusion capable of engaging the SIM card with the SIM contact device; and

a sealing gasket coupled to the SIM card cover.

18. (Previously withdrawn) A portable electronic device, comprising:

a housing; and

a slot that forms part of the housing, the slot having an open top portion and an open bottom portion, the slot adapted to secure a pen into a position, the position of the pen enabling the pen to be pushed out of the slot from the open bottom portion of the slot.

19. (Previously withdrawn) The portable electronic device of claim 19, the pen slot being located on a back side of the portable electronic device.

20. (Previously withdrawn) A portable electronic device, comprising:

a housing; and

a hand strap mount operable to secure a hand strap to the housing, the hand strap mount being convertible into a hip-clip.

21. (Previously withdrawn) The hip-clip of claim 20, including a mushroom part adapted to be coupled to the hand strap mount, the mushroom part having a substantially cylindrical shape with a recessed mid-portion.

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22. (Previously withdrawn) The hip-clip of claim 21, including a receiver, the receiver having a portion adapted to secure to a belt and a portion adapted to secure the mushroom part of the hip-clip.

23. (Previously withdrawn) The hip-clip of claim 20, including a mushroom part adapted to be coupled to the hand strap mount, the mushroom part having a substantially square shape with a recessed mid-portion.

24. (Previously withdrawn) The hip-clip of claim 23, including a receiver, the receiver having a portion adapted to secure to a belt and a portion adapted to secure the mushroom part of the hip-clip.

25. (Original) A housing for a portable electronic device, comprising:
a compact flash card slot, the compact flash card slot being located within a battery compartment of the portable electronic device;
a SIM module located within the battery compartment of the portable electronic device, the SIM module including a SIM card cover freely detachable from the SIM module and securable to the SIM module with a screw; and
a pen slot adapted to enable a pen to be pushed out of the slot from a bottom opening in the slot.

26. (Currently amended) A portable electronic device, comprising:
means to receive a flash card, the means for receiving the flash card being located within a means for housing a power supply for the portable electronic device; [and]
means for ejecting the flash card; and
means for enabling a pen to be pushed into or out from a compartment of the portable electronic device.

27. (Previously withdrawn) A portable electronic device, comprising:

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means for mounting a hand strap; and
means for converting the means for mounting a hand strap into means for
securing the portable electronic device to a belt.